

Appl. No. 10/620,075
Amtd. Dated Mar. 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 30, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical connector for engaging with an electronic card, comprising:

an elongate dielectric housing defining a slot along a longitudinal direction thereof, the housing comprising a base and a tower at one end of the base, the slot extending into the tower to separate the tower into first and second supporting portions, the first supporting portion having a larger dimension than that of the second supporting portion and defining a receiving cavity;

a plurality of first contacts retained in the housing, the first contact comprising a contact portion extending into the slot for engaging with the electronic card; and

a second contact retained in the housing the tower, the second contact comprising a first engaging portion extending into the slot for engaging with the electronic card and a second engaging portion received in the receiving cavity adapted for electrically connecting to a complementary component.

Claims 2-4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second contact is generally of a planar shape and comprises a retention portion connecting the first engaging portion with the second engaging portion.

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Claim 6 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first engaging portion comprises a pair of mating arms extending upwardly from the retention portion, and the second engaging portion extends from the retention portion in a same direction as the mating arms.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 3 1, wherein the first engaging portion comprises a pair of upwardly extending mating arms, and the second engaging portion extends in a same direction as the mating arms and offsets from the mating arms in the longitudinal direction of the housing.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 3 1, wherein the second contact is a power contact.

Claim 9 (currently amended): An electrical connector for engaging with an electronic card, comprising:

an elongate dielectric housing defining a first slot along a longitudinal direction thereof, the housing comprising a tower at one end thereof, the tower defining a channel for retaining the electronic card;

a plurality of first contacts retained in the housing and each comprising a contact portion extending into the first slot for engaging with the electronic card; and

a contact module secured to the dielectric housing, the contact module comprising a dielectric body and a second contact retained in the dielectric body, the dielectric body defining a second slot having a width substantially the same as that of the first slot, the second contact comprising a first engaging portion extending into the second slot for engaging with the electronic card and a second

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engaging portion for electrically connecting to a complementary component.

Claim 10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein the dielectric housing defines a chamber communicating with the channel, and the contact module is secured in the chamber.

Claim 12 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first and the second engaging portions of the second contact extend in a same direction.

Claim 13 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 12, wherein the second contact is a power contact.

Claim 14 (original): A card edge electrical connector for use with a daughter board, comprising:

an insulative housing assembly defining along a lengthwise direction thereof a first longer central slot section and a second shorter central slot section spaced from said first longer central slot section in said lengthwise direction;

a plurality of first contacts including contacting portions located on two sides of the first central slot for mechanical and electrical engagement with a first region of the daughter board; and

a plurality of second contacts including contacting portions located on two sides of the second central slot for mechanical and electrical engagement with a second region of the daughter board which is spaced from the first region; wherein

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each of the first contacts include a soldering section for mounting to a printed circuit board on which the housing assembly is seated, while each of the second contacts includes a tail portion which is configured not to be engaged with the printed circuit board but electrical connected to another discrete electronic component via a wire.

Claim 15 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 14, wherein said housing assembly includes a discrete module attached to a main body of the housing assembly, and the second central slot section is provided by said discrete module.

Claim 16 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 14, wherein said second central slot section is larger than said first central slot section in a lateral direction, which is perpendicular to said lengthwise direction, for further reception of the tail of the corresponding second contact.

Claim 17 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 16, wherein the tail of each of said second contacts is located offset from the corresponding contacting portion along said lateral direction.